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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. **Intellectual Property Causes** 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191

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Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 **Expedited Procedure Requested** Examining Group, 3738

Attorney Docket No. **P24072**

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: Alvin J. STEWART

Corres. and Mail

Application No.

10/642,756

Filed

: August 19, 2003

For

: INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 in the above-captioned application.

X Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

A Request for Extension of Time.

No additional fee is required.

fee has been calculated as shown below.

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
	-		Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims: 6	*20	6	x25=	\$0.00	x 50=	\$
Indep. Claims: 1	**3	1	x100=	\$0.00	x200=	\$
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			+180=	\$0.00	· +360=	\$
Extension Fees for Month(s)				\$0.00		\$
			Total:	\$0.00	Total:	\$

^{*} If less than 20, write 20

** If less than 3, writ	e s	
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Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$_

N/A A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing/extension fee is included.

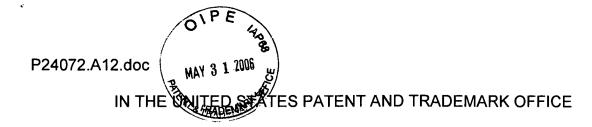
X The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

X Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

X_ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3)). Linda J. Hodge

Reg. No. 29,027

Reg. #47.348



Applicant(s): Shigenobu SATO et al.

Group Art Unit: 3738

Appln. No. : 10/642,756

Examiner: Alvin J. STEWART

Filed : August 19, 2003 Confirmation No.: 3012

For : INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 7, 2006, setting forth a three-month shortened statutory period for response to expire on June 7, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Response. **Remarks** begin on page 5 of this Response.